

Shrimp Task Force Meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 10:00AM
Terrebonne Parish Council Room

Allison West called roll:

Voting Member Present:

Clint Guidry
Lance Nacio
Acy Cooper- Alternate for George Barisich
Alan Gibson
Andrew Blanchard
Eric Hansen

Voting Members Absent:

George Barisich
Lance Authement- ALT

Non-Voting Members Present:

Mark Schexnayder
Captain Chad Hebert
Benjy Rayburn
Jack Isaacs

Motion by Alan Gibson to accept the February 3, 2016 meeting minutes as corrected,
2nd by Andrew Blanchard, motion carries

Lance Nacio made a motion to add an agenda item under 'New Business' titled
C. Slow Foods Festival Sponsorship, 2nd by Acy Cooper. Motion Carries

Motion to approve the amended agenda by Acy Cooper, 2nd by Lance Nacio. Motion
Carries

Allison West presented the TF with the Treasury and Budget Report:
Remaining fund balance: \$374, 555; \$8,400 in encumbrances, with a budget balance
of \$86,600

Motion to approve the treasury report by Acy Cooper, 2nd by Andy Gibson. Motion
Carries

Proposed Legislation for Shrimping enforcement and Violations:

Cole Garrett addressed the TF with fishing enforcement and penalties proposed legislation- provides penalties for using shrimp trawls out of season

Cole Garrett suggested continuing discussion of this legislation with Terrebonne DA's to determine conviction and effective prosecution

*Chad Hebert stated that he would provide the TF with enforcement numbers regarding line violations at the next meeting

Proposed Legislation for Wild Seafood Certification Program:

Cole Garret addressed the TF on the proposed legislation for expanding the Wild Seafood Certification Program

Proposed legislation expanded to mandate participants to meet 2 of the 3 following criteria:

- Landed in LA
- Packaged in LA
- Processed in LA

Public Comment on Proposed Legislation:

Ron Anderson expressed concern for the proposed criteria, stating that allowing product that is not landed in LA to participate in the program and use the label would be unfair and take sales away from LA landed shrimp

Karen Profita of the LA Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board stated that with industry support, they would be happy to help promote the LA Wild Seafood Certification program and brand

Andrew Blanchard made a motion to accept the proposed Wild Seafood Certification Program legislation as written, 2nd by Alan Gibson. Motion passes with a 4 to 2 vote

Glenn Bourgeois with the DA's office addressed the TF on the proposed legislation on shrimping enforcement and penalties; the proposal is enforceable, wanted to see some clarification on whether LDWF agents would have authority to stop violators immediately or upon conviction

On first conviction it would be to the judge's digression to determine guilt or innocence and whether or not to mandate the violator to have a vessel monitoring system, second or more conviction a 3-year VMS mandatory for the vessel

Cole Garrett stated that he would draft language to further clarify convictions and violations

Alan Gibson asked if there is anything that can be put in place to prevent violators from committing the crime again until the case is prosecuted

Chad Hebert stated that installation of the VMS costs about \$3500 along with a monthly fee to keep the device activated

Cole Garrett suggested that the TF consider increasing violation fines, stating that most fines top out at about \$900, and substantially increasing the fine may deter violators

Alan Gibson made a motion to accept the proposed legislation but to continue discussions with the DA's office and enforcement, 2nd by Lance Nacio. Motion passed with 4 to 1 vote, chairman abstained

Randy Skinner presented to the TF his 'wing- trawl' system. Mr. Skinner is currently applying for an experimental permit for testing this system

Allocation of Task Force Sponsorship and Grant Monies:

Gary Granata with Slow Food New Orleans requested \$3000 funding from the TF to sponsor the Slow Food Festival that will take place on March 10-13 in Violet, LA

No public comment on sponsoring this event

Lance Nacio made a motion to provide \$3000 sponsorship to the Slow Food Festival, 2nd by Acy Cooper. Motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote.

Clint Guidry proposed that the TF consider looking into the allocation of funding and coming up with a process and budget outline for sponsorship

Alan Gibson and Acy Cooper suggested that the TF come up with a cap on sponsorship and other TF funded items

Alan Gibson made a motion to bring this item to committee and take up at the next meeting, 2nd by Lance Nacio. Motion carried.

Sub- Committee Assignments:

Management Sub-committee Members:

Clint Guidry

Alan Gibson

Acy Cooper/ George Barisich

Lance Nacio

Marketing Committee:

Eric Hansen

Andrew Blanchard

Lance Nacio

Legislative Committee:

Alan Gibson

Acy Cooper/ George Barisich

Eric Hansen

Public Comment:

Karen Profita of LA Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board stated that on March 29- Legislative Reception 5:30pm Pentagon Barracks

Thomas Emel of LSU Ag, LA SEA Grant thanked the TF for their support of the LFF Summit and program. The LFF Summit will be on March 1 from 8:30am- 4:00pm

Shrimp Task Force meeting set for April 20

Motion to adjourn by Lance Nacio, 2nd by Andy Gibson. Motion carries

Meeting adjourned at 12:23PM

